

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated April 17, 2007. Claims 6, 16, 21 and 29 have been canceled. Claims 1, 7-8, 15, 18, 22-23 and 27-28 are amended herein. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-5, 7-15, 17-20, 22-28 and 30 will be pending in the present application.

Basis for the amendment of claim 1 is found, for example, in claims 1 and 6 of the application as originally filed.

Basis for the amendment of claim 15 is found, for example, in claims 1, 15 and 16 of the application as originally filed.

Basis for the amendment of claim 18 is found, for example, in claims 18 and 21 of the application as originally filed.

Basis for the amendment of claim 27 is found, for example, in claims 18 and 27 of the application as originally filed.

Basis for the amendment of claim 28 is found, for example, in claims 18, 28 and 29 of the application as originally filed.

No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

1. Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated that claims 6-8, 11, 16, 21-23, 27 and 29 contain allowable subject matter. The subject matter of these claims has now been rewritten in independent form, including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, thereby limiting the claimed subject matter to the allowable subject matter.

Specifically, the subject matter of allowable claim 6 has been incorporated into claim 1 to render claim 1 allowable and claim 6 has been canceled. Claims 2-5, 7-14 and 17 all depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1 and thus are allowable for at least the same reason that claim 1 is allowable.

Claim 15 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of former claims 1 and 16 such that claim 15 is now of the same scope as former allowable claim 16 thereby rendering amended claim 15 allowable. Claim 16 has been canceled.

Claim 18 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 21 which depended on claim 18 in order to render claim 18, as amended, allowable. Claim 21 has been canceled. Claims 19-20, 22-26 and 30 all depend, either directly or indirectly, on claim 18 and thus are considered to be allowable for at least the same reason that claim 18 is allowable.

Allowable claim 27 has been rewritten in independent form by incorporation of the limitations of former base claim 18 from which allowable claim 27 depended. Thus, claim 27 is considered to be allowable.

Claim 28 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of former claims 18 and 29 such that claim 28 is now of the same scope as former allowable claim 29 thereby rendering amended claim 28 allowable. Claim 29 has been canceled.

As a result, Applicant respectfully requests issuance of a notice of allowance.

2. 35 U.S.C. §102 Rejection

The 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection is moot in light of the above claim amendments.

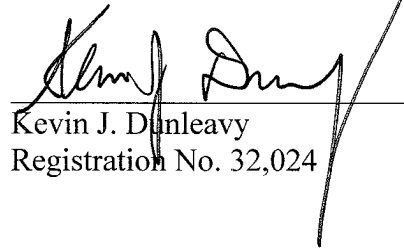
3. 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

The 35 U.S.C. § 103 rejection is moot in light of the above claim amendments.

4. Conclusion

Applicant has made an earnest effort to place this application in condition for allowance. If the Examiner feels that a telephone interview would expedite prosecution of this patent application, he is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned at 215-599-0600.

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin J. Dunleavy
Registration No. 32,024

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Customer No. 21302
KNOBLE YOSHIDA & DUNLEAVY LLC
Eight Penn Center, Suite 1350
1628 John F. Kennedy Blvd.
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Telephone: (215) 599-0600
Facsimile: (215) 599-0601
e-mail: kjdunleavy@patentwise.com